

CDO's report for July 2024

Northstowe Community Forums 2024

The next Forum will be on Wednesday 11 September at Western Park Pavilion starting with a drop-in at 6:30pm and presentations at 7pm. Agendas are usually advertised the week before and questions can be asked during the evening by attendees as well as submitted in advance to: northstowe.community@scambbs.gov.uk

Digital Buddies

An initial Digital Buddies drop-in session took place on 12 July. We are working with Connecting Cambridgeshire who are going to support the project going forward and will offer some further drop in session, the dates of which are still to be agreed. The sessions are designed to offer digital assistance such as: using/downloading apps, searching information online, bus pass application. We are working towards establishing regular Digital Assistance sessions, more information will follow soon.

Junior Bowls

We are working on a couple of summer junior lawn green bowls sessions with Longstanton and Northstowe Bowls Club. Groups will be a maximum of 12 people and last for two hours each, dates will be announced soon.

BMX Track

We are involved in discussions regarding the new recreational facility for a BMX Track in Phase 2, adjacent to the planned Eastern Sports Hub. The community engagement event took place on Friday 12 July at Western Park Pavilion with Homes England and Clerk and Kent Construction.

Menopause Meetings

We are part of the group organising the Menopause meetings. On Wednesday 17 July there was a guest speaker, Cristina from My Yoga Corner who held a yoga session followed by a discussion about the importance of flexibility and strength. The next meeting is on Wednesday 25 September from 6pm – 7:30pm, a social gathering is being planned for August. Please contact us if you would like more information or if you would like to help run the group.

Appreciative Enquiry Interviews

As The Cabin is now a year old, we have been conducting Appreciative Enquiry interviews with users to see how well the centre is fulfilling its purpose and to find out how future buildings could benefit. We have been collecting data on the mode of travel used by people getting to the Cabin.

Community Activation Grant Fund

SCDC are administering the Northstowe Community Activation Grant Fund on behalf of Homes England. Some applications have already been received and have been successful www.scambbs.gov.uk/community-safety-and-health/northstowe/northstowe-community-activation-fund

Community Networkers

There was no Community Networkers meeting in July due to groups apologies and there will be no meeting in August. The next Community Networkers meeting will take place on Wednesday 4 September where groups will discuss Light Up Northstowe and other upcoming events.

Northstowe Neighbours

We attended the Northstowe Neighbours film which had its debut on Friday 15 July at Northstowe Secondary College. This highlighted life in Northstowe and how the new town is developing.

Northstowe Events Channel on WhatsApp

There is a new WhatsApp channel where community groups and organisations can post information on events, these can be viewed by residents; there are almost 200 followers. To access the page, please go to:

<https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029VaaYjYdFCCoVVZZdih3O>

Social Walking Group

The CDOs have been supporting and joining some of the walking group sessions, please look out for future dates on the Northstowe Community Facebook page and the noticeboards at The Cabin.

Hallmaster

We are using the new booking system, all future bookings for The Cabin will need to be made via Hallmaster on:

<https://v2.hallmaster.co.uk/Scheduler/View/12421?startRoom=0>

Photography Quiz

We are organising a Photography Quiz where residents can share photos of landmarks they have visited which other people have to guess the location name. The quiz will be available on the Northstowe Hub website as well as making available some printed copies at The Cabin.

Meetings attended with external agencies

- Supported and attended the Community Engagement event for the Phase 3 Design Code and BMX track in Phase 2
- Attending Northstowe Open Space and Landscape monthly meetings
- Part of the Northstowe Communications Group which promotes Northstowe and its events; this includes Henbe Communications (supporting Homes England)
- Participated to an Introduction to Age Friendly Communities course
- Took part in training such as: Proactive Neighbourhoods, County Lines and Criminal Exploitation
- Midlife360, a social enterprise helping women return to work, whom we are hoping will participate in a future menopause group session

Meetings with Community Groups

- Supporting and promoting the Social Walks through discussions including external agencies
- Participating in the Northstowe Youth Partnership, sub-group meeting

Other work:

- Visit to the new build sites at Marleigh and Waterbeach
- We acted as Presiding Officer and Poll Clerk during the General Elections on 4 July
- Processing bookings at The Cabin for community groups, individuals and businesses on a daily basis including raising invoices, checking payments and following up requests
- Part of various community WhatsApp groups i.e. Cabin Keyholders, coordinating out of hours access arrangements for The Cabin
- Working towards establishing a Digital Assistance programme
- Collecting food for the community larder on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and making this available for collection from The Cabin
- Designing promotional material and updating social media
- Writing reports and articles for local publication
- Evening and weekend meetings and events in furtherance of the above

To contact the Community Development Officers, please email
Northstowe.community@scambbs.gov.uk